

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE: [REDACTED] 25X1X

1. At the end of 1951, there were approximately 80 pharmacies in Sofia. They are directly subordinate to Sofiysko Gradschi Aptecho Upravlenie (Sofia Municipal Pharmaceutical Authority) located at No. 22 George Washington Street, which is responsible for the production and marketing of drugs in Sofia and throughout the Sofia vicinity. Similar organizations exist in other Bulgarian towns, and all are subordinate to the Pharmaceutical Department of the Ministry of Health which is located at Lenin Square in Sofia.
2. The largest pharmaceutical depots are located at No. 22 George Washington Street in Sofia. Another depot is located near the second railroad station on the Sofia-Meundra line.¹
3. At the end of 1951, there were approximately 1,000 graduate pharmacists and 2,000 practical pharmacists working in Bulgaria. Practical pharmacists receive theoretical instruction at evening classes and practical experience by two years of work in a pharmacy.

Domestic Production of Drugs

4. The only drug-producing enterprise in Bulgaria is the Galenus Factory, located in the Nadezhda suburb of Sofia. This factory produces certain preparations for the local market only, including the following:
 - a. Concentrates of Bulgarian herbs, such as belladonna and Secale Cornutum (Bearded Rye);
 - b. Ointments from Bulgarian herbs;
 - c. Injections; and
 - d. Homeopathic preparations are also about to be produced by the factory.²
5. It is said that a new factory to produce ether and sulphuric acid was being built in 1951 near the second station on the Sofia-Meundra railroad line.¹

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6. Vaccines and sera are produced locally at an institute attached to the University Clinic. The products include anti-tetanus and anti-diphtheria sera.

Pharmaceutical Imports

7. All raw materials, except herbal extracts, are imported from the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. Items imported in large quantities from the USSR include:

a. Acetosal; (sic, possibly acetal?)

b. Caffein;

c. Theobromine;

d. Ether;

e. Acetone;

f. Calcium gluconate;

g. Hydrochloric acid; and

h. Nitric acid.

8. Limited local production forces Bulgaria to import most of its medical supplies. The Soviet Union takes first place among the suppliers, followed by Czechoslovakia and Hungary. Imports from the USSR include:

a. Anti-malarial drugs, plasmochin, atebrin, quinine;

b. Sulfa drugs;

c. PAS (Para Amino Salicylic Acid) for the treatment of tuberculosis; and

d. Antibiotics, streptomycine and penicillin.

9. Ultraseptil is imported principally from Hungary.

Shortage of Drugs

10. These drugs are not imported in sufficient quantities, and the following drugs in particular are in short supply:

a. The sulfa group;

b. Antibiotics, to be had only upon presentation of permits issued by the Ministry of Health;

c. Biochemical preparations; and

d. Sulphaguanidin, issued to children only, because of limited quantities available.³

25X1A 1. [REDACTED] Comments: Ilyantsi is the second station on the Sofia-Mezdra line.

25X1A 2. [REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED]

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